REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been canceled. Claims 3-4 and 6-7 remain pending in this application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the receipt of all certified copies of priority documents.

The Examiner objected to the specification for an apparent informality, which Applicants correct by amendment. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

The Examiner objected to Figs. 1-3 under MPEP § 608.02(g) for failing to designate that which is old as "Prior Art." Applicants submit herewith replacement sheets for these figures, and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Claims 3-4 and 6-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,014 ,132 to Shimada et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner cited page 3, lines 5-7 in the specification as alleged AAPA on the claimed feature of maintaining an efficiency of a DC/DC converter at an optimum level in a predetermined low-power consumption mode. Such portions of the specification only include, however, Applicants' recognition of the very problem of inefficiency with prior art techniques that do not optimize DC/DC converter efficiency. Applicants, therefore, respectfully point out to the Examiner that such cited description in the application is merely Applicants' recognition of the inefficiency problem with the AAPA techniques described, and is itself not AAPA disclosure of any known technique to maintain an efficiency of a DC/DC converter at an optimum level in a

predetermined low-power consumption mode, as claimed. Thus, AAPA fails to disclose or suggest this claimed feature for which it is relied upon by the Examiner.

And the cited portions of Shimada et al. only include description of a CPU clock frequency being reduced to reduce the power consumption of the CPU during a "standby mode." Such portions of Shimada et al. do not include any description on the operating efficiency of the CPU during such a "standby mode." Such a "standby mode" may even imply that the CPU need not operate at all. Thus, Shimada et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, also fail disclose or suggest determining a switching clock frequency of a DC/DC converter to maintain an efficiency of the DC/DC converter at an optimum level.

In other words, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to combine AAPA and Shimada et al., such a combination would still have failed to disclose or suggest,

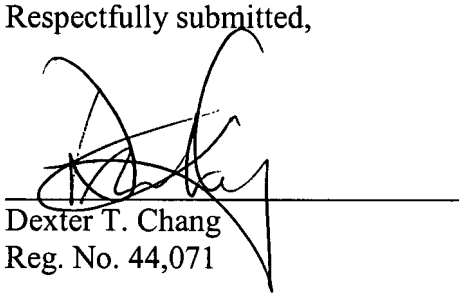
> "[a] method of reducing power consumption of a portable terminal equipped with a display unit to which power is supplied from a DC/DC converter, the method comprising the steps of:
> monitoring the display unit to see whether the display unit is in a display color number limiting mode or not;
> determining a switching clock frequency ***of the DC/DC converter*** to maintain an efficiency ***of the DC/DC converter*** at an optimum level in the display color number limiting mode; and
> switching the frequency to the determined switching clock frequency, and operating ***the DC/DC converter*** at this frequency," as recited in independent claim 3. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 3, together with claim 6 dependent therefrom, is patentable over AAPA and Shimada et al., separately and in combination, for at least the foregoing reasons. Claim 4 incorporates features that correspond to those of claim 3 cited above, and is, therefore, together with claim 7 dependent therefrom, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Dexter T. Chang
Reg. No. 44,071

CUSTOMER NUMBER 026304
Telephone: (212) 940-6384
Fax: (212) 940-8986 or 8987
Docket No.: 100794-00109 (FUJA 18.905)
DTC:bf